

# 2020 CENSUS: TEACHERS & SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

## MAKE MONTANA YOUTH COUNT

In 2020, the U.S. Census will define who we are as a nation. Taken every 10 years, on a form that can be filled out in 10 minutes, the census affects political representation and directs the allocation of billions of dollars in government funding. An accurate census is key to schools getting the funding they need to serve every child. Education professionals can play a significant role in getting a complete count of Montana. You can partner with the U.S. Census Bureau to convey the importance of participating in the next census and to ensure no one is left uncoun­ted, especially our state’s youth. **Achieving a complete and accurate 2020 Census is in our hands.**

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### THE CENSUS: A SNAPSHOT FOR MONTANA

- The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years. The census is a count of everyone residing in the United States: in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and the U.S territories.
- It is estimated that, for every Montana resident we count, the state will receive \$20,000 back in federal funds over the next decade. Montana is spending \$0.09 per resident on promotion, so it is critical that our partners spread the word for the state to receive its fair share.
- The 2020 Census will create hundreds of thousands of temporary jobs across the nation. 4,000 – 4,500 Montana workers will be hired between spring of 2019 and summer 2020.
- Every year, more than \$670 billion in federal funds are awarded to states and communities based on census data. Montana receives more than \$2 billion every year in federal funding that is allocated to our state based on census data.
- Census data helps local groups plan for new buildings and programs and guides local decision-makers in important community planning and construction efforts including schools, roads, and other infrastructure.
- Census data affect your voice in Congress by determining how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. Projections show Montana gaining back a U.S. House Representative in Congress with an accurate count.

### 2020 CENSUS TIMELINE: KEY DATES

March 2018	Census provides questions to Congress.
Fall 2018	Recruitment begins for local census jobs for early census operations.
Spring 2019	Census employees go door-to-door to update address list nationwide.
Fall 2019	Recruitment begins for census takers needed for peak workload in 2020.
Fall 2019	Census Offices Open.
February 2020	Group Quarters Operations begins.
March 2020	Update and Leave begins - packets delivered to homes not receiving mail.
March 2020	Internet Self Response begins.
<b>April 1, 2020</b>	<b>Census Day!</b>
April – July 2020	Census takers visit households that did not return a questionnaire by mail.
December 2020	By law, Census Bureau delivers population counts to President for apportionment.
March 2021	By law, Census Bureau completes delivery of redistricting data to states.

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### COMPLETING THE 2020 CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE: SIMPLE AND SAFE

- The 2020 Census questionnaire will ask only a few simple questions of each person—name, relationship, gender, age and date of birth, race, and whether the respondent owns or rents his or her home. This simple, short questionnaire takes just a few minutes to return by internet, phone or mail.
- The Census removes all identifiable information (names, phone numbers, and addresses) from data files and uses various computer technologies, statistical methods, and security procedures to protect its files.
- The Census Bureau does not release or share information that identifies individual respondents or their household for 72 years.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: KEY POINTS FOR K-12 & SPECIAL EDUCATION

- **How does the Census information affect Montana's schools?**  
Census is used to allocate federal funding for programs critical to student success. Examples for FY2016 include:

Program	Agency	MT Allocation
Title I for Local Education Agencies	ED	\$ 46,622,762
Head Start Program	HHS	\$ 49,933,828
Special Education Grants	ED	\$ 39,037,996
National School Lunch Program	USDA	\$ 27,686,000
Title II Supporting Effective Instruction	ED	\$ 10,640,020
School Breakfast Program	USDA	\$ 9,177,000
Career & Technical Education	ED	\$ 5,165,733

- **Why is there an emphasis on an accurate Census count of children?** The U.S. Census Bureau says young children (ages 0-9) are most at risk of being undercounted. In the 2010 Census, more than 1 million young children were missed.
- **Why are Montana's youth, especially young children, so hard to count?** Young children are much more likely to be living in hard-to-count households that have multiple risk factors for an undercount. Babies born right before the census are commonly left off the census form, even if a household is counted. This also happens when the children are not related to the head of household filling out the form.
- **Will the Census Bureau share information with anyone?** No. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share respondents' answers with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities. All Census Bureau employees take an oath of nondisclosure and are sworn for life to protect the confidentiality of the data. The penalty for unlawful disclosure is a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment of up to five years, or both.
- **How can I get involved with the 2020 Census?** There are numerous ways to get involved. Participate in Census Statistics in the School Activities, hold an event, spread the word about the 2020 Census.
- **Are there temporary 2020 job opportunities?** The Census Bureau is hiring more than a 2,000 Montanans to help execute the 2020 Census. A variety of temporary jobs, which are perfect for many educators, are available. Census jobs pay competitive wages based on current pay rates in your area. For information about census jobs, visit [2020censusjobs.gov](https://2020censusjobs.gov).